Monmouth Oct 26. 1852

Dear Mary,

I intended to have sent you a very long letter by Mr Bishop, something that should shew my gratitude for your long & interesting letter of August 28, but I find that Mr B. has delayed his return for the purpose of attending a Unitarian Convention at Baltimore & I will therefore rely upon the post & send you as much as my limits permit. I hope Mr B. may be edified by the meeting. I think you need have no doubt of his planting upright in his own way. It will be a very amiable & gentle one, but then Unitarians are a very amiable & gentle set of people, & not believing as do strictly as do we Methodox in the depravity of the world you are hardly able to recognize as through the wrong principle I suppose Mr Bishop has altogether different opinion of Dr Garnet from that which I have, as he has preached in his pulpit which implies that he would allow Garnet to preach in his. I have no doubt he bears a good testimony in his own sweet amiable way

to all these pro slavery people but at the same time he will have a tolerable[n] for Mr Gannett & Dr Dewey & other wolves in sheep's clothing which is entirely undeserved. Mr Bishop passed a very pleasant day with us in company with Mr & Mrs Garrison & Mr May but I did not hear him talk (as much as I should have liked, as he was listening to Garrison, whose views I wished he might understand & I therefore carefully avoided any calculation which might lead to a different, even if (to me) a more interesting train of conversation. afterwards I drank tea with him at Mrs May's (Mr S. M's mother) & found him very pleasant & talked with him more than at Weymouth. I should judge he had enjoyed his sojourn in America (apart from his private griefs) & should see much that he may make very profitable to the A. S. Cause. He has promised me something for the Liberty Bell & I trust will not disappoint me. Now let me hasten to the Anniversaries. I know not whether Bristol or Dublin be entitled to the credit truly due to some one, but it is certainly most admirably fitted for the work wherewunto it is called. It is perfectly union promising, & at the same time contains no word or

phrase at which exception can justly be taken. I should think it was just the thing needed in Great Britain. Surely now people may stop worrying over the Liberator or knowing themselves least they should be contaminated with Infidelity. The Advocate will prove the best medium of communication between the Abolitionists of both countries using the word in reference to the great mass of those who take an interest in the cause, for of course there will be always a few who will enjoy "the rigour of the game" as set forth in the American papers, and who have a love for the Liberator in spite of & in some cases because of its extraneous titles. I have been thoroughly irritated myself lately with a good deal of K. C. knight nonsense, but it is no use to protest. It does seem as if he must soon be at the end of his absurdities. At any rate Garrison has those extreme views of the sanctity of Free Discussion that it is entirely impossible to so affect his mind as that he shall refuse there fore all communication. The friends & not merely the friends, but a good part of New England is very much interested just now in exchanges & knockings & tippings of tables and I am considered intolerant, because I cannot for the

life of me help resolving the whole matter into some form or other of human credulity a human superstitious sensitive & watchful people do tell me that they have seen little balls, roll from one leg to another, till it absolutely went out of the room, no hand touching it, but I have seen nothing myself. Mrs John T. Sargent, one of our Parish Committee, wife of a very respectable Unitarian clergyman who was formerly a minister at large, a woman well educated & with a fashionable as to worldly connection, assured me with all appearance of truth & simplicity last week that she was a writing medium that he hand was impelled to write she knew not what, till it was read to her, & that she was talking on some quiet indifferent subject all the time of her writing. When I am next in town I shall spend an evening with her for the purpose of investigating the matter which I could not do in the course of a morning call.

Our prospects in respect to the Boylston are good if we can procure a good Hall. All the really desirable places, & there are very few, are occupied at Christmas time with Balls, Supper parties &c.

I fancy on the whole we shall go into Cuvier Hall, the plaice was occupied before the City was sufficiently hospitable to open Faneuil Hall to us. It will be too small but we shall save some money in the way of expenses. I was pleasantly surprised to receive your Cork a week or two since a newspaper containing an address from the Cork Society, calling for help for the Bazaar &c.

I have enclosed your Report, having two or three at my disposal, as extensively as possible I find it does good here as well as with you, people are so apt to forget or ignore any endeavours however important in which they were not personally active.

I think the 1st of October will be sufficiently early time for the transmission of the Basket box, unless some remarkable accident betide. We could have done much better with the Basket things if they had been received earlier last winter, but this is confidential to you only. There is always the danger those articles may be detained several weeks before they are unloaded from the vessel, there being no haste about unloading any vessel except the Cunard Steamers. Their cargoes are discharged at once. I saw Mr Mary's mother last week & she told me

per son had received the bill of lading of a box of merchandize, but he did not know you whence. I am sorry to tell you that poor Addie Clay is ill; there are fears of a typhoid fever. I had a few lines from Mr Clay last week in which he did not speak of her as very ill, but hearing yesterday that some of his family in Boston had gone up to Lenox I cannot help feeling some uneasiness.

Mr Webster's death occasions a great commotion in this part of the county. Marshfield is about 20 miles distant & as Mr W was known for a day or two to be in a dying state, great interest & commotion were excited. It is true that one human soul is the same as another as regards its real consequence & importance, & yet one cannot help feeling a deeper impress of solemnity & reflection when a man so greatly gifted is summoned to his account. I found myself unconsciously murmuring those lines of Wordsworth's

"A power is passing from the earth
To breathless Nature's dark abyss"

& in the mingled emotions of curiosity awe & sympathy with which we approach the last hours of a dying person I almost forgot for a moment the great guilt that should have

bear heavily upon his soul, tho' I cannot
think that he did expect any thing
but that general repentance that every
body thinks desirous under such circumstance. The newspapers are full with
eulogies, even the Free Soil papers are in
mourning, and it is never heard that the
man had a fault, by people in general
tho through life his private character
has been any thing but unexceptionable.
He has probably died of mortification & disappointment, as he must indeed have
bitterly felt the force of Southern ingratitude
as displayed in the National Whig Convention where he did not obtain a single
vote. But his great influence is with
drawn from a country he has done so much
to ruin. I leave him & all sinners
like him to what some celebrated
Doctor of Divinity in New York has called
"God's uncovenanted mercies"

I do not know, my dear friend,
that I have thanked you as you should
be thanked for all your kindness &
sympathy as regards Caroline & her
return. I need not tell you, for you
can understand without my doing so
how great our enjoyment has been.
We are just beginning to settle down
quietly. I am sorry to say that just
at this moment my brother is not
quite so well as he has been. Our

must however think the difficulty is only temporary. He & Caroline went from North campton to New York & while there, he took a severe cold, which (it did not prevent his returning) yet confined him much to comfort. Caroline begs me to give much love to yourself & Mr Esten & say that she has written a long letter to Mr Esten to go by Mr Bisbee but as he has left Boston perhaps she must wait for a more convenient season, as it is written on two thick paper to send by mail.

When you write write to R. D. Webb & offer him my very affectionate regards & many thanks for the beautiful book he sent me. I hope to write him shortly. I am at the present time a good deal engaged as the Belle is being printed, & I have much difficulty in bringing my contributors up to the work. This is the last volume that I shall get out. For a little in strumentality it is a valuable one, but it is difficult to keep it up. Many people are bored by the obligation to write for it year after year & others who should write, will not so that the difficulty that I meet with, serves me in my own eyes as good excuse for exemption from the labour.

Give much love on my part to Sarah Pugh & thank her for her few lines enclosed in yours. I was delighted to receive assurance of her love under her own hand. I am glad she has remained so long in England, not only on her own account but because of the good cause. She must have an influence among friends that may prove very valuable. Speaking of friends I have been much amused by "The Story of my life" which Mr Mary has lent me. I think one is led to greatly dislike the writer, & yet the book is extremely entertaining & bears on many respects the marks of truth. The fault is that it does not embrace the whole truth. Elizabeth Fry & John J. Gurney might have behaved precisely as he says they did & yet have been the salt of the earth (I do not absolutely know that they were & have a little doubt as to the latter) but very great errors in taste & manners are not crimes, & we must be thankful for E. Fry's labours in New gate all the same as if Ireland had not been, as it were, shaken to make her jelly.

I have met a very sad loss since I
wrote you in the death of a very dear
friend. Catherine Sargent died last month
after a very suffering illness. I can never
express how good she was to me, & how
much I loved her. I loved her first
for herself, for I can truly say she was
the highest exemplification of Christianity
that I have ever known. Her gentle nature
sweetness was equalled only by her steady
firmness of principle & clear understanding
of justice. She was at the same time
bright & witty & cheerful, beyond all
belief when one considers that she had
attained the age of 77. Her devotion to the
A. S. Cause was intense; nothing was dearer
to her heart than its success. By [illegible]
devoted chiefly to her family, but she
left in her will $1000 to Garrison as
a mark of her respect & admiration; the
most of her family are uncompromising
pro slavery. Her home has been like
a second home to me, & her death has
made Boston, [illegible] dark. [illegible]

I wish I could write more, but I have
had such interruptions. I hope to have long
letters by the Bayaux box. Give me all
needed information in respect to the
Liberty Bells, to whom they should be sent
& every thing that I ought to know.
I shall ask Mr May to subscribe for the
Advocate for me & shall wait for it
with great [illegible] impatience